

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention includes *in vitro* methods of inducing and enhancing proliferation of human marrow stromal cells for use in, for example, gene therapy and transplantation methods. The invention also includes a method of assessing the expandability (i.e., proliferative capacity) of human marrow stromal cells. In addition, the invention includes a conditioned medium for enhancing proliferation of human marrow stromal cells.

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